

Our City—The President Elect.

The regular Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Pennsylvania says:

"In looking back over the year, one cannot fail to be struck with the improvement that have taken place in Washington. The city has added over two thousand souls to its population within a short time past; and the probability is that it will go on increasing at a still greater ratio for time to come. Several of the principal streets have been well graded. The public buildings have steadily advanced. Among these may be named the additional wings to the Patent Office and the two Houses of Congress. At the railroad station one of the finest depots in the Union has been erected, while in the immediate vicinity the large and prosperous forwarding establishment of Adams & Co., has been located in a towering and elegant edifice, with a massive iron front. The Washington Monument has risen to over 100 feet, and is likely to go up faster in 1853 than it has gone during any previous year. At the splendid buildings of the Smithsonian Institute the grounds are being constantly beautified. The Navy Yard has enjoyed a material enlargement. In front of the Executive Mansion the garden-plot, and the area across the avenue have undergone and are undergoing quite marked improvements. The shores near the Potomac need draining very much. They might be rendered extremely beautiful, and could be kept so with but very little expense. Surely it is honorable to the country to attend to its capital, especially as it bears the honored name of the Father of our country.

"Gen. Pierce was always popular in Washington. No man of his years in the Senate could draw out a larger concourse of hearers, when it was known he was going to speak. His pleasing manners always commended him to all who had the honor of his acquaintance; while his determined adherence to principle rendered him dear to the members of his party. Such, I doubt not, will continue to be his well-deserved popularity at the seat of government."

The Smithsonian and the Authors.

The Smithsonian Institute was founded, at Washington, "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

In the Report is the account which the Assistant Secretary and Librarian, Prof. Jewett, gives of the operation of that clause of the Smithsonian act requiring copies of all books, &c., copyrighted in the United States, to be deposited in the library of the Institution. The law-makers forget to impose a penalty for neglect of the requirement; the consequence of which is, as Prof. Jewett informs us, many publishers pay no attention to the law. Not half the books issued, he says, are received; and as those sent—doubtless the least valuable—are transmitted at the expense of the Institution, they cost, on the whole, more than they are worth. The entire value of all received during 1851 is estimated at but four hundred and fifty dollars.

THE FUTURE.—In the language of Daniel Webster, "We shall leave for the consideration of those who shall occupy our places a century hence, some proof that we hold the blessings transmitted from our fathers in just estimation; some proof of our attachment to the cause of good government and of civil and religious liberty; some proof of a sincere and ardent desire to promote every thing which may enlarge the understandings and improve the hearts of men."

GEN. WOOL.—Gen. Wool was waited on at the Eagle Hotel in Concord, N. H., on Friday, by Governor Martin, the council, members of the legislature, and a large number of citizens. Gen. Pierce was present. In the afternoon, Gen. Wool returned the legislature's call, and was introduced to Speaker Kittredge in the House by Hon. Ichabod Bartlett, and by the Speaker to the House. He also visited the Governor and council, at their chamber, and the Senate. The General and suite left the city in the evening.

Dr. Stone, of New York, delivers a lecture this evening at the Smithsonian Institute on the subject of *Art* with special reference to our own country. It will, we doubt not, be well worthy the attention of all those interested in the subject.

Com. Gregory gave the workmen at the Charleston (Mass.) navy yard a holiday on Saturday afternoon, as a New Year's present from Uncle Sam.

The Baltimore Patriot states that letters have been received from Gov. Johnson, of Virginia, and Gov. Lowe, of Maryland, signifying their intention to attend the celebration of the opening of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, on the 10th instant.

CONGRESS.

Senate.

Several memorials and petitions were presented and referred.

A message was received from the President of the United States communicating to the Senate a copy of the correspondence in relation to the Tri-partie Treaty between England, France, and the United States in which each power was to disavow all intentions of obtaining possession of Cuba.

The resolution of Mr. Rusk to pay Mr. Meriwether's mileage and per diem, in the contested case between himself and Mr. Dixon, was taken up and considered.

Mr. UNDERWOOD, of Kentucky, was against paying all contestants, believing that such contestant should run his own risk.

Messrs. SEWARD, BADGER, TOUCEY, BRIGHT, RUSK, and MANGUM, favored, and it was read another time and passed.

On motion of Mr. SHIELDS the bill to increase the efficiency of the Army and Navy by a retired list for disabled officers of both was taken up.

Messrs. CASS, SHIELDS, and others advocated it.

Mr. HALE was in favor of a slight modification of the bill, and hoped that it would be printed before acted upon.

Mr. CASS said that the matter had been before them for years, that further discussion was needless.

Messrs. SHIELDS, BORLAND, and others expressed themselves in favor of the immediate passage of the bill.

Messrs. SUMNER, CHASE, HAMLIN, and others favored its being postponed and the bill printed.

Mr. STOCKTON said he wished the Military Committee had left the Navy to the Naval Committee.

Mr. SHIELDS said he would be glad to leave the whole matter to the Naval Committee.

Mr. STOCKTON continued his remarks at some length, eulogising the navy, and in favor of putting more competent men at the head of the Departments and Bureaus.

House of Representatives.

On motion of Mr. SEYMOUR, of New York, the House took up and passed the joint resolution from the Senate, allowing the owners of steamboats in certain cases further time to make the necessary preparations to bring their respective vessels within the provisions of the steamboat law passed at the last session.

Mr. COBB, of Ala., moved to reconsider the vote by which the House at the last session rejected the bill to remit the duties on railroad iron imported for the use of certain railroad companies in the Southern and South-western States.

Mr. JENKINS moved to lay the motion on the table, which was agreed to by a vote of 74 to 73.

On motion of Mr. PELK, the House then took up the report of the Committee of Conference on the bill for the relief of the widow and children of the late Gen. Worth.

The report recommends that the House recede from their amendments and pass the bill as it came from the Senate.

The subject was discussed with considerable earnestness by Messrs. ORR, of South Carolina, POLK and HARRIS, of Tennessee, JONES, of New York, STUART, of Michigan, CAMPBELL, Illinois, SACKETT, of New York, and others.

The American Fisheries.

A Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, who is well informed on all public matters of importance, says that Mr. Lorenzo Sabine, who has just taken his seat in the House as a member from Massachusetts, has recently made a full and valuable report to the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of the fisheries of the United States on the British American coasts. Mr. Sabine has given much attention to this subject for a number of years, and is more familiar with it than any other man in the country. This report embodies information which will be of great value to the government in conducting the pending negotiation with Great Britain, and it will soon be also submitted by the Treasury Department to Congress. Mr. Sabine strongly sustains the rights of the American fishermen; and the fishermen are resolutely determined to sustain their own rights at the next fishing season, should they not be recognised by the British government.

We have the utmost confidence in the ability and patriotism of Mr. Sabine. The question he presents is one of importance to the whole country, and it is a satisfaction to know that he will do it ample justice.

Baltimore last night presented the scene of another deliberate murder. A youth named Thomas Miller, aged about 15 years, was shot dead whilst coming out of a grocery store, between Conway and South Paca streets. No clue has yet been had to the murderer, who is supposed to be a lad about 15 or 18 years old.

A PRETTY WINTER SCENE.—The Boston Chronicle of Monday last says: "On Saturday we had rain, hail, and snow, all in glorious confusion, rendering the streets almost impassable. The temperature was so low that the rain froze as it fell. Yesterday morning the sun rose bright and beautiful, and the landscape was but one field of burnished silver. Every blade of grass, every twig and branch of a tree, and every vine, was coated with ice, which glistened and sparkled in the rays of the morning sun like so many diamonds, the whole scene to the eye being more like some visions of fairy land, than the dull realities of mother earth, upon whose vegetable forms Jack-frost had been heaping his frozen pearls. A more beautiful panorama was never beheld than that presented by the heights of Brookline and Brighton on the one side, of Somerville and Cambridge on the other, with their noble trees covered with frost, catching and playing with every ray of light that shone upon them."

THE CONCERT.—Speaking of Mad'le Rosalie Durand, who can be heard nightly at Iron Hall with the little Aztecs, the Norfolk News says, we cannot permit the opportunity to pass without an humble tribute of admiration to the lovely songstress, whose sweet strains stirred the profoundest depths of our heart. Mad'le Rosalie Durand, as far as we are capable of judging, is the most gifted vocalist, that has ever appeared before a Norfolk audience. In compass, flexibility, expression and sweetness of voice she is all that our imagination has pictured of a perfect vocalist, and we would rather listen to one song from her than an entire programme from even Madames Parodi and Bishop. "Roberto toi que j'aime," "Comin' thro' the Rye," "Home, sweet Home," and the Echo song as sung by her last evening were gems worthy to be entwined in the Chaplet that crowns the memory of Malibran herself, and produced a gush of enthusiastic delight among the fortunate attenders of the concert.

In addition to Mad'le Durand, Sig. Antonio Novelli, Le Petit Ole Bull—Master Goodall—and Mr. Goodall are all lending their talented aid to make up with the Aztecs one of the very best entertainments with which an audience has ever been favored at any price.

PROSPERITY OF THE SOUTH.—Our brethren of the South are in the enjoyment of much prosperity. At this we sincerely rejoice. The New Orleans Bulletin says that "the present condition of the planters of the South, in a pecuniary sense, is infinitely more favorable than at any time within the last ten or fifteen years. As a general thing, abundant crops of every description have rewarded the farmer; and plenty, if not a profusion, of all the necessities, to say nothing of the indispensable luxuries of life, may be found throughout the length and breadth of the slave-holding States.

WEBSTER PARK.—Many of our exchanges commend the idea of giving to the "Public Garden" the name of "Webster Park." Papers from a distance speak of it as a thing that ought to be done. We hope that the next city council will take the matter in hand, and accomplish it.—Boston Chronicle.

PREPARATION IN ENGLAND!—The London Times says of the increased maritime defences of England, and of the increase in the artillery force, that they are not to be regarded as indicative of war, but as a security for peace. That journal evidently considers, however, that the movement points at a possible attempt at invasion of the island.

An article from the London Times exhibits the light in which the Cuban correspondence has placed this government before the world, and the sensation which it has produced in England. The New York Express, speaking of the Times' article, says:

"Of course, the direct effect of this correspondence will be to sharpen the optics of European statesmen in relation to whatever movement may be afoot here, now or hereafter, looking to a further extension of territory, especially if that extension seeks to include 'the gem of the Antilles.'"

Within the past three or four years the attention of the farmers at the West has been turned to the raising of wool, which has been steadily rising in price. Michigan has supplied the market with large quantities from time to time. A late Michigan paper states that there are runners all over the country buying up sheep pelts at exorbitant prices, in some instances offering \$1 a piece, which has the effect to induce farmers to kill of large numbers of their flocks.

"A Charming young lady" has been "doing the good people of Birmingham, Ct. out of considerable sympathy and some 'material aid,' by dropping accidentally among them as an escaped Quakeress from the Enfield Society of Shakers.

"BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER."—Nathan Hale, esq., in the Advertiser of Saturday, announces that he has associated with him, as joint proprietor and editor of that journal, his son, Charles Hale. Mr. Hale remarks that from the 1st of March, 1814, to the present time, he has been the sole responsible editor of the paper.

The Hudson river remains open later this winter, than in any preceding winter for years past.

The United States Circuit Court at Providence, has decided the Rhode Island Liquor Law, modelled after the Maine law, to be unconstitutional.

A movement has been made in the Legislature of South Carolina during its present session, on behalf of common school education.

The Jackson statue now stands firmly in its position in Lafayette Square. It will remain housed until the 8th instant.

The New York times asserts that Martin Luther's wedding ring has turned up in a jeweller's shop in that city. It bears the following inscription in bold letters in German text:

MARTIN LUTHER CATHERINE DE BORE.
 18th of Jan'y 1525.

Sausages were particularly scarce in market, yesterday morning, and could not be obtained for love or money. So says a Cincinnati paper. A Cincinnati is just as much out of his element without sausages, as a Baltimorean is without soft-shell crabs in summer, and canvass back ducks and oysters in winter.

A letter from Lima, Peru, in the Herald, states that Mr. Thorne, a son of Colonel Thorne, the New York millionaire, has been arrested in that city, charged with stabbing, it is feared, fatally, a Frenchman.

The new St. Nicholas Hotel, in Broadway, New York, one of the most palatial edifices on that thoroughfare, is to be opened for business on Thursday.

The Southern and Western Hotel at Hagerstown, was sold on Saturday last for the sum of \$6,550. Purchaser, Capt. Byers.

Letters from Athens, Greece, state that Rev. Dr. King is pursuing his missionary labors in quietness, preaching every Sabbath as formerly.

The Lynchburg (Va.) Republican states that the South Side Railroad has been placed under contract to the point where it reaches James River, six miles only below Lynchburg, and a distance of about eighteen miles above the point to which it is graded.

A letter from Guayaquil, Ecuador, states that the decree expelling the Jesuits had caused a popular tumult in Quito, in the course of which the troops fired upon the crowd. A Neograndian officer had arrived with despatches which it was rumored announced another revolution, caused by the conservative party of the South of that State.

From a letter, addressed to Senior Don Jose de Marcoleta, the Nicaraguan representative at this government, we learn that his recall has been requested, and that he is no longer allowed to communicate with the State Department.

"Is that animal a biped or a quadruped?" asked one of the visitors at a circus, one day, of a by-stander.

"I think, sir," said an evident student of Natural History, with bulging eyes and green spectacles, "that the gentleman who shows the animals called it a kangarooed."

A REWARD OF FIVE DOLLARS will be given to the finder of a CAMEO BREAUSTPIN, which was lost at the President's House on New Year's Day, by leaving it at Col. J. G. Berrett's on 13th street between E and F streets.

COMBS.
JUST RECEIVED, a large assortment of Tucking, Side, Dressing, Riding, Fine Ivory and other COMBS. Also, an abundance of Porte Monies of every grade and for sale, very low, at LAMMOND'S, 7th street Fancy Store, second door below E.

A liberal discount to those who buy to sell again.

BIRTH-NIGHT BALL of the Old Franklin.

THE FRANKLIN FIRE COMPANY take pleasure in announcing to the citizens of Washington and vicinity that they will give their Fifth Annual Ball, at Jackson Hall, ON THE 17th OF JANUARY, and will spare neither pains nor expense to make it one of the best Balls of the season.

MANAGERS.
 John H. Sessford, Wm. H. Fanning, Joseph L. Reese, T. Edmonston, E. C. Eckloff, George Walker, A. S. Jones, A. S. Jones, C. J. Canfield, Wm. Fisher, Rob. E. Doyle, Good Coddison music has been engaged. Tickets \$1, admitting one gentleman and ladies. They can be had at the following places: First Ward, J. L. Savage; Second Ward, Butt's Drug Store, Rich. Downer's, Horace Ritter's, and M. Coomb's; Third Ward, Patterson's Drug Store; Fourth Ward, J. Powers and F. Benter's; Fifth Ward, J. Caspari; Sixth Ward, J. Kelly; Seventh Ward, Clark's Drug Store.

FEED STORE.
 A SUPPLY of all kinds of feed of the best quality, kept constantly on hand at L. J. DENHAM'S, corner of B and 10th streets.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE AZTECS.

These extraordinary little creatures, scarce two feet high, are giving three entertainments daily at Iron Hall, to wit: from 10 to 12, 3 to 5, and 7 to 9. Tickets 25 cents, Children 12½. They are assisted every night by Madame Rosalie Durand, Signor Antonio Novelli, Mr. Goodall, and Le Petite Ole Bull. A better entertainment cannot be well got up at any price.

A lecture descriptive of the history and origin of the AZTECS will be given every exhibition.

Jan 3—dlw

BRILLIANT SUCCESS!

EDEN, EDEN! THEN THE FLOOD, And Thunder, Storm, and Deluge! IN ODD FELLOWS' HALL.

DR. BEALE'S new Panorama and Diorama of Creation and Deluge was opened in Odd Fellows' Hall on Wednesday evening, December 22d, at 7½ o'clock. Exhibitions every evening, and on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at three o'clock. Extra exhibitions for select parties and excursion parties.

The painting is fresh from the hands of the master of American artists, Geo. HURLER, esq., of Philadelphia, and is considered to be his masterpiece. In these days of Panoramas Dr. Beale could not expect to succeed in the nation's capital with a mere common-place painting; but of the perfections of this work—the beauty of Eden, the purity of the sky and the water scenery, the majestic God-like form of Adam, the fascinating charms of Eve, the enchanting wiles of the temptation, the stern resistance, the final fall, and the terrible expulsion—let a Washington audience be the judges. Admission twenty-five cents, children half price. Liberal arrangements for schools.

NATIONAL THEATRE.

Mr. E. A. MARSHALL.....SOLE LESSEE.

Third appearance of the world-renowned wonder KATE AND ELLEN BATEMAN.

THIS EVENING, JANUARY 5, Will be presented the new Comedy of HER ROYAL HIGHNESS.

Doctor Birchini.....Mr. H. BATEMAN. Leopoldina.....KATE BATEMAN. Strachino.....ELLEN BATEMAN.

GISELLE WALTZ.....MISS ANNIE WALTERS.

After which, will be presented a beautiful Comedy, third time in Washington, and which has created such a great sensation throughout America and Europe, entitled

THE YOUNG COUPLE. Charles de Blonville.....ELLEN BATEMAN. Henrietta de Ligny.....KATE BATEMAN.

To conclude with (first time) the farce of THE WINDMILL.

GRAND MILITARY AND CIVIC BALL.

THE Committee of Arrangements take pleasure in announcing that the Annual Ball of the WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY will take place on Monday night, the 10th of January, at Jackson Hall. As it is the intention of the company to conduct this Ball similar to those given in former years, the committee deem it proper to state that a supper will be furnished by a competent caterer, and every effort will be made to make it equal to any ball ever given by the company.

Tickets \$2, to be had at the usual places. JOSEPH E. TATE, JOHN F. TUCKER, JAMES KELLY, JOHN W. MEAD, JUDSON O. WARNER, JAMES E. POWERS, J. K. MARSOLETTI, J. F. MITCHELL, JAMES A. KING, Committee of Arrangements. WM. W. S. KERR, Treasurer.

R. H. LASKEY, Attorney and Counsellor-at-Law. PRACTICES in the Courts of the District, and prosecutes claims of every description before the several Executive Departments and before Congress. Office on Louisiana avenue near Sixth street.

EMBROIDERIES.—I wish to call the attention of the ladies to my stock of the above goods, which will compare with any in the city in style and price— Lace and Muslin Chemisettes Do do Collars Do do Sleeves Muslin Caps and Cuffs Cambric Chemisettes and Sleeves Do Collars and Caps A. TATE, Agent. A new and splendid assortment of Mourning Goods.

LUMBER YARD. JOHN B. WARD, keeps constantly on hand a good assortment of lumber, which will be sold on accommodating terms.

LIME! LIME!—1,500 bushels fresh wood burned, just received from the kiln. Also, wood and Coal of all kinds. For sale by WM. WARDER, corner of 12th and C sts.

WOOD AND COAL. THE celebrated Dauphin coal, and a full supply of oak, pine, and hickory wood. For sale by W. STONE, on the canal south of 7th st. bridge.

WM. BIRD. Dealer in Lumber and Coal. WILL have the accounts of his customers ready for presentation on the 1st of January, 1853.

M. T. PARKER, House and Sign Painter and Glazier, RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public generally, that he is prepared to execute work in his profession as punctually and at as reasonable rates as it can be done in Washington. Orders left at his room on Louisiana avenue, between 6th and 7th sts., or at his residence on C street, rear of his room, will receive prompt attention.

HASTINGS' COMPOUND SYRUP OF NAPHA. A positive cure for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, and all diseases of the chest and lungs. A single bottle will prove its efficacy. Prepared by Dr. G. Hastings, London. Price \$1 per bottle. Sold by S. R. SYLVESTER, Chemist and Druggist, cor. 6th and H sts.

NEW AND SPLENDID GOODS. WRITING Desks, Ladies Work Boxes Gentlemen's Shaving Cases Eight-day Clocks, a superior article, Porte Monies, Bird Cages, &c. received and for sale low at the 7th street Fancy Store, 24 below E.

SOMETHING NEW.

JUST RECEIVED.—One case of Madame Sontag Button Gaiters for Ladies Also, Ladies' Half Gaiters And for sale by HARRIS & GRIFFIN, Penn. avenue, bet. 9th and 10th streets, next door to W. Harper & Co.

BERMUDA ARROW ROOT.—A very superior article, just received. W. T. EVANS.